



Recreation Needs Analysis  
Oroville Facilities  
Project 2100  
Presentation to RSWG

June 2004

# Outline

- Introduction
- Need for Study
- Study Objective
- Overall Study Methodology
- Recreation Needs Summary



# Introduction

- Step preceding development of an Oroville Facilities Recreation Management Plan (RMP).
- Compiles and synthesizes demand, supply, capacity, and suitability information from relicensing studies.
- Identifies existing and projected recreation needs over the anticipated term of the new license.



# Need for Study

- Provides information for use in developing the recreation plan.
- Satisfies FERC requirements for a Needs Analysis for the Project area.
- Does not commit DWR to implementing PM&Es which are defined later in RMP or Settlement Agreement.



# FERC Requirements

- FERC regulations require a Needs Analysis that defines existing and potential future public recreation needs in the Project area.

(Subpart F, 4.51 of 18 CFR)

- These needs are for the Project area only.



# Study Objective

- Compile results from other studies into one synthesis report.
- Identify reservoir-based, water-oriented, and other Project-related recreation needs within the study area.



# Study Area

- The study area is defined as the FERC boundary +  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile. A need that is outside of the FERC boundary would have to have a clear Project nexus to be considered as a recreation need in this study.

# Overall Study Methodology

- Review and synthesize results from previous recreation, and other relicensing studies.
- Identify overall “big picture” project-wide recreation needs for the study area by activity type.
- Identify more specific recreation needs on a site-by-site basis that help address the “big picture” needs.



# Review and Synthesize Results of Recreation and Other Relicensing Studies

Consider the following:

- Demand Data
- Supply / Inventory / ADA Data
- Capacity Data
- Opportunities / Constraints Data
- Stakeholder Input
- Professional Judgment
- FERC Guidance



# Relicensing Studies Considered

The following studies were considered as a part of this report:

- 16 Recreation Studies
- Selected Land Use Study Data
- Selected Water Quality, Terrestrial, and Cultural Resource Data
- Selected Socio-economic / Fiscal Data

# Stakeholder Input

- Recreation User Surveys
- Non-User Surveys
- Focus Groups
- RSWG Input



# Identify Overall “Big Picture” Recreation Needs for the Study Area

- Overall Project-wide Capital, O&M, and Programmatic needs were defined for both existing and future conditions (Current to 2050).



# Factors Considered to Identify Overall Recreation Needs

- Study area demand, supply, capacity, and suitability indicators.
- Estimate existing and projected use levels.
- Recreation carrying capacity indicators by site.
- Opportunities for infill, re-design, or expansion of existing facilities.
- Management goals of managing agencies.
- Input from stakeholders, agencies, law enforcement, and recreation providers.
- Professional judgment.

# Recreation Activities Addressed

- Camping
- Day use / picnicking
- Boating
- Swimming
- Interpretation and education
- Non-motorized trail use
- Fishing
- General use of open space (includes hunting, wildlife observation, and other activities)



# Identify Specific Recreation Needs on a Site-by-Site Basis

- Identifies where overall project-wide recreation needs may be met on a site-by-site basis.



# Identify Specific Recreation Needs on a Site-by-Site Basis

Defines:

- Capital Improvements
- Annual O&M needs
- Programmatic needs
- Other considerations of lesser priority



# Summary of Recreation Needs

- Recreation needs are divided between "Capital," "O&M," and "Programmatic" needs.



# Some of the Overall Project-wide Recreation Needs (Capital)

- Continue to provide ADA-compliant facilities at developed recreation sites.
- Enhance existing boat ramps by extending ramp lanes, providing additional parking, installing additional boarding docks, among other actions.
- Provide improved swimming opportunities at Loafer Creek, Lime Saddle, and/or North Thermalito Forebay.

# Some of the Overall Project-wide Recreation Needs (Capital)

- As a part of an I&E program, provide various program elements such as kiosks and signs.
- Provide additional camping capacity (RV, tent or group) at Loafer Creek and/or Lime Saddle when needed based on future monitoring results.\
- Provide additional shoreline / day use access



# Some of the Overall Project-wide Recreation Needs (O&M)

- Continue to provide annual O&M at existing and new recreation facilities.
- Develop and implement additional measures relating to managing resource impacts (including OHV-use, litter accumulation and dumping, and wildfire evacuation plans).
- Provide additional visitor management and law enforcement presence, especially in the OWA, over time.

# Some of the Overall Project-wide Recreation Needs (Programmatic)

- Periodically monitor recreational use, visitor perceptions and resource impacts through the term of the new license.
- Prepare a Comprehensive Non-motorized Trails Program.
- Clarify and define State agency responsibilities and funding.

# Questions?

